

Playwriting

Content Area: **Music**
Course(s):
Time Period: **Marking Period 3**
Length: **35**
Status: **Published**

Essential Questions/Enduring Understandings

- What existing skills can we draw upon in order to create a script for an original play?
- How can we use our imaginations to elaborate on general characters, settings, incidents, conflicts, crises, and resolutions to create an original play script?
- How can we create dialogue for scenes?
- How can we give constructive feedback to peers in service of improving dialogue?
- Like acting, how can we use our own experiences as inspiration for truthful material in our plays?

Objectives

- Students will know the dramatic structure of a stage play.
- Students will be skilled at using a combination of real, personal life experiences and imagination to create a compelling and meaningful story.
- Students will know how to plot out a short play from beginning to end.
- Students will know the qualities of a 10-minute play.
- Students will know the difference between purposeful and meaningless dialogue.
- Students will be skilled at providing well-informed, constructive feedback on their peers' works.

Learning Plan

- Read several 10-minute plays taking notes on form and format.
- Analyze and discuss the plays and their structures in a group.
- Use Celtx or Final Draft as a tool to discover script formatting and writing.
- Brainstorm a concept for a play based on a real life experience as a foundation.
- Plot out and/or storyboard the play from beginning to end.
- Write a 10-minute play.
- Cast and perform a staged reading of each play.
- Students provide criticism for others' works, and then write a reflection of their own.

Assessments

- Students will brainstorm about the essential questions through regular written reflections in the Actor's Journal.

- Students will demonstrate understanding of playwriting technique by writing a 10-minute play.
- Students will demonstrate understanding of playwriting skill through peer critiques and self-reflections.

Materials

- Play scripts
- Computers
- Celtx or Final Draft

Suggested Strategies for Modifications

[Acting 2/3 Accommodations](#)